

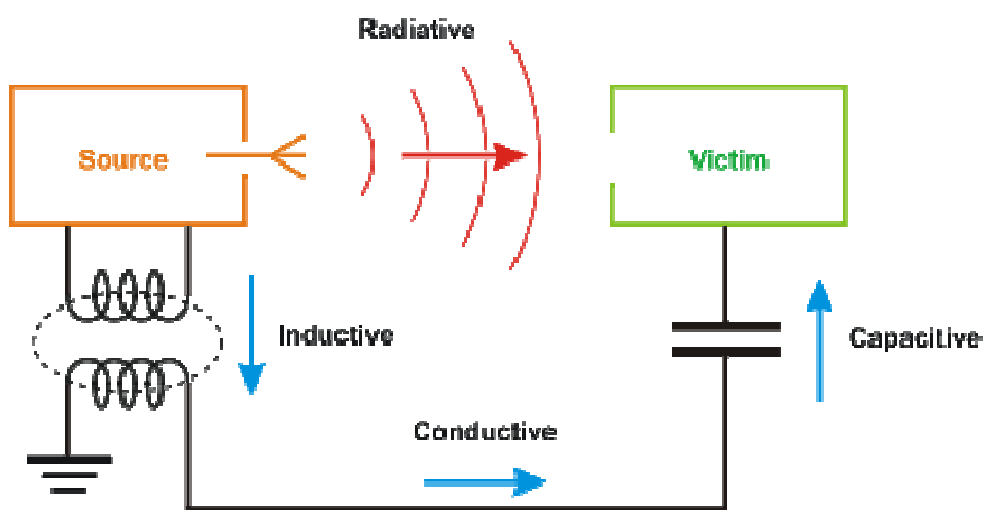
**Christchurch West Amateur
Radio Club Inc.
NZART Branch 56**



Official Newsletter

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The four Electromagnetic interference (EMI) coupling modes.

What's on at the next meeting?"

**Mark Empson will give us a presentation on Electro
Magnetic Compatibility (EMC) /Radio Frequency
Interference (RFI) issues with Variable Frequency Drives.**

Tuesday 28th July 2015

Visit the Br 56 web page; <www.radioamateurs.org.nz>

Clubrooms; Auburn Park, Upper Riccarton,

PO Box 31 095, Ilam, Christchurch 8444.

Br 56 web page; <www.radioamateurs.org.nz

<i>Branch Officers</i>			
<i>President</i>	Denis Coulter	ZL3DEN	342 9013
<i>Vice-President</i>	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	027 6103 144
<i>Immediate Past Pres</i>	Maurice McNab	ZL3MEM	327 3710
<i>Secretary</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
<i>Treasurer</i>	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>Committee</i>	Brent Officer	ZL3TUI	027 437 0224
	Peter Tyerman	ZL3IA	332 4885
	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
	Ross Weir	ZL3TFK	332 8370
<i>Trustees</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	027 6103 144
<i>Auditor</i>			
<i>Branch Officials</i>			
<i>850 Repeater Mgr</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
<i>Free n'Easy Coordinator</i>	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	027 6103 144
<i>Librarian</i>	Ron Rowlands	ZL3AIV	348 2747
<i>Morse Admin</i>	Des Borgfeldt	ZL3ACS	980 9705
<i>Newsletter editor #</i>	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
<i>QSL cards</i>	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>Radio Classes</i>	Mike Duncan	ZL3MDW	338 4942
<i>ZL3VV Station Mgr</i>	Maurice McNab	ZL3MEM	354 1958

***Please note change of Secretarial email address;**

<dougpratt@orcon.net.nz>

QTC56 Newsletter editor

<john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz>

NB New Bank Account

Subs, etc can be direct credited to our SBS Account No. 03 1355 0709371 00

NB. Please ensure your name is against the bank payment.

If cheques are made "non transferable" or "account payee only" please ensure they are made out to ***“Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.”***

The banks will not accept other names (e.g. Branch 56). Thank you

Minutes of General Meeting Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club

23rd June 2015

Present: Denis ZL3DEN (Chairman), Doug ZL2BCF (Secretary), 16 members and guests.

Visitors: Paul Dixon ZL3VY

Apologies: Nil

Minutes: The minutes were read and were accepted. – *ZL3MEM, ZL3TUI*

Matters arising: NIL

Correspondence:

Inward; Ragchew, CCC contact information form, Bank Statement.

Outward; Thankyou letter to Branch 05 re \$100 donation from estate of Vern ZL3WR.

Finance: Club paid up membership stands at 35 with accounts sent.

Payment to Meridian Power of \$376.76 agreed due to faulty meter.

Free & Easy: June A DVD on a DXpedition to Herd Island.

July To be arranged.

Classes: Classes have recommenced with 4 students.

General:

Clubrooms security. It was moved that the branch proceed with the purchase of a closed circuit camera and recording system as per the quote received from Ross Gault. – Ross, Maurice, Passed

A proposal was put to replace the 5 broken widows and have the rust in the frames stabilised as part of the process was supported by those present.

John had some magazines including Q-Bit seeking a good home.

Gilbert advised that he's just put up a 40m antenna and hopes to have some contacts soon.

The formal part of the meeting closed at 2015 and was followed by a very interesting talk and demonstration feed line, antenna analysis using software driven vector and voltage analyser by Paul Dixon ZL3VY.

From The President

It has been decided that it is essential to get QTC56 out to the members as early as possible. However the "From the President" item is more useful if it appears after the cttee meeting. So it will now take the form a of a simple email message sent to all financial

HAMADs

For Sale. Ex deceased estate.. Telequipment® oscilloscope; dual beam, 25 MHz. Please contact John ZL3IB, 03-3489084, <john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz> for more information etc.



Radio Classes; Amateur Operators Certificate

Winter weekly classes for the Amateur Operators Certificate have started with 4 attending. It is anticipated the duration of the study course to extend to a maximum of 12 weeks.

73s Mike Duncan ZL3MDW Ph 338 4942

Club rooms clean-up

A tidy-up is underway in the Club Rooms. Some junk and components are out on the tables. You are invited to view same and make an offer to our treasurer, Keith, or deputy, Peter ZL3IA. Among this stuff are new Sonalert sirens, which operate from 6v to 28v DC. Their size is 40mm diameter x 35mm height. Price is \$2.00 each, to our Treasurer.

Club Room rubbish

Baden complained to me as we were all leaving a recent meeting, re the rubbish. I told him that I believed the two outside groups above were complying, and that "the enemy was within".

I believe that it is our own people leaving the rubbish behind. I found a pizza carton on one visit- an item not usually consumed by outsiders.

Mike and I again removed the plastic rubbish bin, which had returned to the kitchen. Any rubbish bin left visible encourages the offenders to leave their rubbish for us mugs to remove.

Please, therefore, when you are at a meeting, observe what they are doing re rubbish, and encourage/demand that they take rubbish away. Thanks. We can then reassure Baden.

As you know, some time ago we thrashed out a "take your rubbish away yourself" policy for Club Room rubbish. I supplied plastic bags and put up notices, and emailed CARDS and NZVRS Chch branch.

From Ross Weir ZL3TLE

Club Room Workroom

The "workroom" is now habitable and available for testing, calibration, project construction and or electronic repairs. A shadow board (minus shadows) has been installed, populated with tools fit for purpose for the facility. There is still work to be done to further enhance current options and this will happen once retention/removal of excess componentry is finalised .

Serviceability and specification assessments of current test equipment including power supplies to be advised soon - watch this space!

73s MikeD ZL3MDW

Br56 Loan Equipment

The club has a number of useful items of test gear etc available for member to borrow for short periods.

Dip meter

A Grid Dip Meter, Leader model LDM-810, is available for members to use. It covers 2-250 MHz. See Brent ZL3TUI, to borrow same.

MFJ-259 Aerial Analyser

Did you know that our Club has an MFJ-259 aerial VSWR Analyser? No? Well, I didn't either, until Mike ZL3MWD told me last month. I arranged a loan and proceeded to test my home aerials (after first checking the instrument's calibration as per the manufacturer's instructions).

My 80m inverted "V" measured best at 3.86 MHz, 50 ohm, with a VSWR of 1.3. A 107 MHz skirted dipole which has a skirt with a quite a large diameter, had to have the whip lengthened to get down to a VSWR of 1.3 at 107 MHz. Another home-made skirted dipole used for Cass Peak 2m, showed VSWR of 1.2 at 145 MHz. Good! Three portable home-brew 3-element Yagis used for 107 MHz temporary work were found to be OK.

A home-made "Countryman aerial" (a *Wireless World* design, 2m and 432 MHz) had the VSWR in the red, and was taken off the mast for examination. It had a broken internal feed wire, and was replaced with a commercial ¼ wave aerial.

Next to be checked was a 100 MHz folded dipole, which was installed at the top of the 9m mast. The VSWR was in the red. It was taken down, and a new commercial aerial put up

in its place. The VSWR was still in the red. What the heck... and the feeder cable tested OK. The aerial was taken down, and put up in the driveway and checked again. It was also compared with an identical aerial from Mike ZL3MWD. Both aerials performed to the manufacturer's specification. Then the penny dropped....The instrument was being overloaded by the very high RF signals being received from Sugar Loaf. About 15 high power FM signals were being received, each at a level of -10 dBm, and the analyser was being swamped.

The instrument was easy to use, and covers 1.8-170 MHz. See Brent ZL3TUI, if you would like to use it.

Ross ZL3TFK

A Warning. . Before testing an antenna it is absolutely essential to short the antenna to ground to discharge any static that may have built up. Failure to do this can lead to an expensive repair job !

Scrap Metal Drive

Allan, ZL3GX, donated electronic junk, old copper flex, and scrap metal, from our sister branch, Branch 05. To this was added copper flex and other scrap, aluminium cans, old batteries, etc, from Branch 56. Taken to the scrap metal dealer was: 1 kg aluminium cans, 15 kg lead-acid batteries, 113 kg of transformers, 41 kg of flexible copper cables, and 19 kg of aluminium. This netted \$208.70 for Club funds. Thanks, Allan ZL3GX, John ZL3IB, Mike ZL3MWD, and Ross ZL3TFK.

A big thank you to all contributors.

Ross ZL3TFK

Missing from Br56 library

The following issues of *Break-In* magazine are missing from our Club library:

December 1995	Jan-Feb 2011	July-Aug 2013
Sept-October 1999	July-Aug 2011	Mar-April 2014
May-June 2007	Sept-Oct 2011	May-June 2014
Jan-Feb 2009	Nov-Dec 2011	July-Aug 2014
May-June 2009	Jan-Feb 2012	Mar-April 2015
July-Aug 2009	Mar-April 2012	
Sept-Oct 2009	July-Aug 2012	
Nov-Dec 2010	Jan-Feb 2013	

If you have taken these, please return them to our Club Library. Anyone with spares to fill the gaps? Thanks.

Ross ZL3TFK

Free User manual downloads

See <<http://www.central-manuals.com>> for free downloads of user manuals, instruction guides for computers, software, cameras, watches, etc. It could be really helpful to many of us..

Calendar for 2015

ZL3VV on air; Tuesday evenings, contact Maurice ZL3MEM.

Theory and CW classes, Workshop activities, etc. Wednesdays at 1930 hr when required.

CARDS meeting. 3rd Wednesday; All welcome.

Free and Easy - Second Wednesday at 1330 (1.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
	11	11	8	13	10	8	12	8	14	11	TBA

Committee Meeting - Third Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
20	18	17	21	19	16	21	18	15	20	17	

General Meeting - Fourth Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
27	25	24	28	26	23	28	25	22	27	24	TBA

Free and Easy:

8th July TBA

General Meetings

28th July Mark Empson has kindly agreed to give us a presentation on Electro Magnetic Compatibility (EMC) /Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) issues with Variable Frequency Drives.

Your committee urgently needs suggestions for topics/speakers and/or offers of talks for Branch meetings.

Club Nets

The combined North Canterbury Radio Clubs net is held every Sunday at 2000 hr on the Cass Peak 145.625 MHz repeater (5625). Our club spokesman, ZL3TUI, gives our Branch 56 news and events. This is transferred to the Marley's Hill 147.050 MHz repeater (705) if the Cass Peak repeater is "down".

The Official NZART broadcast is held on the last Sunday of the month at 2000 hr, on the M. It is sent via the National link, which comes out of Marley's Hill National Link repeater on 439.875 MHz, and also on 3900 kHz, lower side band. The local net (above) is held off until the NZART broadcast is concluded.

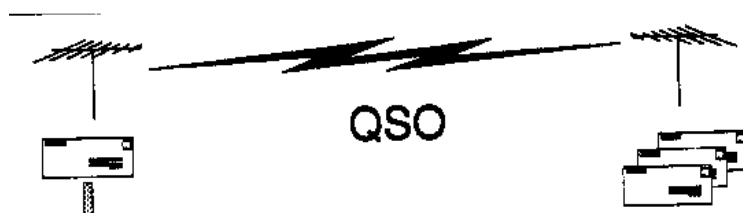
Full details are also available on the Br56 website <www.radioamateurs.org.nz>

Interested in Vintage Radios?

The Christchurch section of the NZ Vintage Radio Society now meet in our club rooms. Meetings are normally held on alternate months on the first Tuesday of the month. If you are interested please contact John Dodgshun <dodgshun@ihug.co.nz> for more information.

Next meeting; Tuesday 7th July

QTC56



Monthly Newsletter

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56